QUEBEC

EMIGRANT SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS

AT A

PUBLIC MEETING,

APRIL 23, 1832;

WITH

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT, AND THE NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

QUEBEC:
PRINTED BY T. CARY & Co.

1832.

QUEBEC
EMIGRANT SOCIETY.

At a PUBLIC MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS to the QUEBEC EMIGRANT SOCIETY, to which the Inhabitants in general were invited by Advertisement, and by handbills, held by permission in the READING ROOM of the NEW EXCHANGE, on MONDAY, APRIL 23d, 1832:—

The Honorable Mr. JUSTICE KERR, President, having been called upon to take the Chair, stated that the object for which the Meeting had been summoned was to submit to the Subscribers generally the REPORT of the COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT, on resigning their charge; and to proceed to the Election of New Officers, and a new Committee, who, in future years, would go into office on the first MONDAY in MAY, according to the provisions of certain new Regulations, which he should have the honor of submitting for the adoption of the Meeting.

The SECRETARY then presented the REPORT of the COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT, since the 2d February, 1832, the date of their former Report.

The REPORT having been read, it was

RESOLVED, That the REPORT of the COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT be received, and placed upon the minutes of the Society.

The said REPORT was in the following words:—

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT,

APRIL 23, 1832.

THE Committee of the Quebec Emigrant Society, on giving up their charge, previous to the election of officers for the current year, respectfully beg to refer the General Meeting of the subscribers to their Report of the 2d February last, to which the present may be considered merely supplementary.

The necessity of a new subscription, for the relief of distressed Emigrants until the opening of the navigation was then stated; and the call made upon the benevolence of the community was most promptly answered. The Committee have had the satisfaction of continuing the distribution of weekly alms to deserving objects of charity, during the remainder of a winter, unprecedented in severity and duration, and therefore doubly onerous on the indigent and the sick.

The Committee have to report with the most grateful feelings several contributions to the funds of the Society from charitable associations and individuals; more especially those collected in the different congregations of this city, in consequence of sermons preached by their respective Clergy, at the solicitation of the Society. To the Reverend Gentlemen, who so readily and so effectually met the wishes of the Committee, a humane and charitable public will doubtless feel proper obligation; as well as to the other individuals who have selected this Society as the organ of their charity. The amount collected from the different congregations was £174 13 0, and that received from the other sources alluded to, £30.

From the date of the last Report, 2d February, to the 19th instant, the Committee have expended £66 in relief

to the distressed Emigrant population. By this sum 803 persons have been assisted. But as many of these persons were weekly pensioners, it will be more explanatory to state, that 73 persons in distress have, on the average, been relieved each week, at an outlay of about £5 15.

In consequence of the passing of the Provincial Act, during the last Session of the Legislature, intituled "An "Act to create a fund for defraying the expense of pro- "viding Medical assistance for sick Emigrants, and of "enabling indigent persons of that description to proceed "to the place of their destination," the Quebec Emigrant Society, in common with the sister establishment at Montreal, has been placed on a more permanent footing, as regards its funds, with, however, an encreased responsibility. A fund has been raised by the humanity of the Legislature, to be applied in forwarding poor Emigrants to their destination in these Provinces; and it will remain for the Committee appointed this day, to carry the benevolent intentions of the Provincial Government into execution. The performance of this duty will be rendered more satisfactory, by the reflection that every precaution has been taken by the Executive and the Legislature against the dangers and inconveniences which might have been apprehended from a numerous Emigration, without any provision for the sick and indigent—while at the same time, the means of relief have been extended to the sick Emigrant, and every aid provided for his speedy establishment in the country parishes, by assisting him to reach the place of his destination. The Emigrant Hospital, under the arrangements so judiciously made by the Board of Health, has been re-established on a most satisfactory footing; and the Committee have been informed from official authority, that accommodation for 300 patients can be furnished, if required, under the humane management and care of the Medical Members of that Board.

In alluding to the Fund placed under the direction of the Emigrant Society by the Provincial Act above mentioned, the public will understand that no advances of *money* are to be made to any Emigrant from that source.—The Society will, therefore, as before, have to depend upon the charitable contributions of the public, for means of relief to the poor widows and orphans of Emigrants who may die after their arrival here, and to others who come

under the long established regulations of the Society.—The Committee beg leave to express their earnest hope that the support of a charitable community will be continued to the Society during the current year; as the administration of the subscription fund will be distinct from that granted by the authority of the Legislature.

The extension of the powers of the Society, by the Provincial Act, having rendered it necessary to draw up additional Rules for its proper management, the Committee have unanimously agreed to submit to this meeting several new regulations, which, if approved of, will go into operation on the first Monday in May next, and will hereafter form the basis on which the Society's affairs will be administered.

The Committee beg to remark, that since their last Report, they have had the same reason to feel obliged to Doctors Lyons and O'Callaghan, for their kind attention to the Dispensary of the Society; and also to Mr. George for the gratuitous use of an office. The Treasurer's Account is herewith submitted, by which there appears a balance in his hands of £104 10 11, but it is calculated that the outstanding claims against the Society amount to £30.

By order of the Committee,

J. C. FISHER,
Recording Secretary.

Quebec, 23d April, 1832.

The Secretary then presented the Draft of the new Rules and Regulations agreed upon by the Committee of Management, and the President having called the attention of the Meeting thereto, it was

Resolved, That the new Rules and Regulations for the management of the Society be read, and that the question be put thereon by chapters.

The Secretary read the said new Rules and Regulations by chapters, and they were so put by the President. They were passed successively, after a few verbal alterations, and are as follows:—

At a GENERAL MEETING of the Quebec Emigrant Society, held on the 23d day of April, 1832, pursuant to public Advertisement:

The Hon. Mr. Justice KERR, President, in the Chair.

RESOLVED: That in consequence of the passing of a Provincial Statute during the last Session, intituled, "An "Act to create a fund for defraying the expence of providing "medical assistance for sick Emigrants, and of enabling "indigent persons of that description to proceed to the place "of their destination"—by which a certain portion of the Revenue thereby to be levied, is to be expended under the direction of the Emigrant Society, in forwarding poor and destitute Emigrants to those places in this Province or in the Province of Upper Canada, where they may be most likely to obtain employment, and to establish themselves permanently; it is indispensibly necessary to revise, correct, and enlarge their former Rules, and to define the rights and duties as well of their Members, as of the Persons who are now, or who hereafter may be Office Bearers of the Society, so as more fully to carry into effect the purposes of its Institution, and the benevolent intentions of the Legislature.

RESOLVED: That the following Rules and Regulations shall be adopted and henceforth carried into operation, in lieu of any former Rules and Regulations, which are hereby abrogated

SUBSCRIBERS.

1st. All persons who shall contribute Ten shillings yearly to the Society shall be considered Members thereof, and shall have a right to attend and vote at all meetings of the Society.

2d. The Subscription shall be paid to the Treasurer, or to the person authorised to receive the same, on or before the first day of April in every year, in default whereof they shall not be allowed to vote, or become Members of the Committee.

OFFICERS, &c.

3d. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Three Vice Presidents, and a Committee of Management, composed of Twenty Subscribers, with power to add five to their number, should it be found necessary; the said five to be elected at a Meeting of the Committee, called for the purpose.

4th. The Quorum of the Committee for conducting business shall be seven.

5th. The Reverend Clergy and the Magistrates of the City, shall be *ex officio* Members of the Committee, provided they become Subscribers to the Funds.

6th. The Committee of Management shall have power to appoint a Recording Secretary, a Door-keeper, a Messenger, Storekeepers, or Agents, and to fix their remuneration.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

7th. An Annual Meeting of Subscribers shall, after the present year, be held on the first Monday in May, for the Election of the President, Vice Presidents, and Committee of Management.

8th. Ten of the Committee of Management shall go out, hereafter, by rotation, eligible, however, to be re-elected by the Annual Meeting.

9th. The Members of the Committee of Management, when elected, shall determine their seniority by drawing numbered lots.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETINGS.

10th. There shall be held three other General Meetings at quarterly periods; namely, on the first Monday in August, November, and February, to appoint a Sub-Committee to audit the accounts of expenditure, to receive reports of proceedings during the preceding quarter, and to transact such other business as shall be brought before such Meetings by the Committee of Management, or proposed in writing by any ten Subscribers.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

11th. Extraordinary General Meetings of the Society may be called, as occasion may require, by the President; and in his absence by the Senior Vice President; or by any five Members of the Committee, or by any ten Subscribers, such requisition to be in writing, and addressed to the President, or Senior Vice President.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

12th. There shall be held a General Meeting of the Committee of Management on the First Monday of every month; and Special Meetings may be called at any time by the President, in his absence by the Senior Vice President, or any three Members of the Committee.

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE.

13th. The Committee shall fill up by election any vacancies which may occur in their numbers, during the year, by death, resignation or absence, at a meeting of the Committee to be called for the purpose.

14th. The Committee of Management shall generally conduct the affairs of the Society, and audit the accounts and expenditure.--They shall establish such agents, depôts, and correspondence in the Townships, and Country Parishes of the Province, as they shall deem necessary to facilitate the forwarding of Emigrants to those places where they may find labour and support.

15th. It shall be the duty of two Members of the Committee of Management, by rotation, to attend at the Office, three days in the week, that is to say, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, between the hours of Eleven and Three. They shall be termed Weekly Directors.

16th. The weekly Directors shall hear and examine all claims for relief, and grant such aid to the applicant as the case may require, and the Regulations of the Society will justify.

17th. They shall have power to provide passages or land conveyance, upon orders or tickets, to such Emigrants as shall be deemed, after due enquiry, objects deserving of such assistance.

18th. Should either of the Weekly Directors, after having been notified of his tour of duty, be prevented attending as aforesaid at the office, he shall be held constrained to obtain the attendance of some other Member of the Committee as Weekly Director in his place, it being expressly understood that no relief shall be granted unless two Members of the said Committee be actually present.

19th. The Weekly Directors shall insert in their minutes the names of the applicants who have received relief, together

with the nature of the relief, the sums paid to them, and out of what fund such relief shall have been afforded. Such minutes shall be delivered to the Secretary, who shall preserve and file the same.

20th. Whenever persons or families, whose claims for relief have been recognized, are unavoidably prevented from proceeding to their destination by want of necessary provisions or clothing, or require medical aid without being in a state to authorise their reception into a Hospital, the Weekly Directors may furnish them with necessary clothing, provisions, and medical aid at the Dispensary, or may provide shelter for them, until the temporary obstacle to their proceeding to their destination shall be removed.

21st. Should it be found necessary to establish any shed, barrack, or place of deposit, for the purposes of the Society, such establishment shall be visited at least once a week by each of the Weekly Directors.

DUTY OF THE PRESIDENT.

22d. The President shall convoke and preside at all General and other Meetings; and in his absence the Senior Vice President shall take the Chair, and in case neither of those officers shall be present, the Senior Member of the Committee of Management shall take the Chair.

23d. The President, or person in the Chair, shall have a vote, and in case of an equal division, a double or casting vote.

24th. The President, or in his absence, the senior Vice President, shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society, whenever thereunto requested, in writing, signed by five Members of the Committee of Management, or by ten subscribers.

DUTY OF THE SECRETARY.

25th. The Recording Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society, its Sub-Committees, and of the Weekly Directors, and be subject to their orders.

26th. He shall keep a list of the Subscribers and Benefactors to the Society, and shall take and preserve in a book regular minutes of the proceedings, and shall make an

Alphabetical Index specifying the general substance of such proceedings.

27th. He shall keep also an Alphabetical Index, for reference of the names of persons relieved by the Weekly Directors.

28th. He shall keep distinct lists, in a printed form, of all applicants for passages or conveyance, under the Provincial Act; and of all persons applying for relief from the subscription funds of the Society.

29th. He shall attend every day at the office from Ten o'clock in the forenoon to Four o'clock in the afternoon, to receive application for passages or relief, which he shall class as above mentioned; and shall lay the claims before the Weekly Directors at the next sitting.

30th. He shall also keep a printed form, filled up with the names of the heads of families or persons, to whom passages, or means of conveyance, clothing, medical aid, provisions, or orders for shelter shall have been granted, distinguishing the various kinds of relief, as the case may be.

31st. The minutes of the proceedings of the Society, and such printed lists to be open to the inspection of the Committee of management and of the Weekly Directors.

32d. The Secretary shall carry on the Correspondence of the General Committee of Management, and shall apply for and keep in his custody, all Books, Papers and Correspondence of the Society, under its former and present organization and shall deposit them in the office of the Society, in such manner and under such arrangement, that easy reference may be had thereto.

33d. The Secretary shall visit the shed, barrack, or depôt of the Society, if such there be, thrice a week, and report the state thereof; and any complaints which may be made, or abuses that exist, to the Weekly Directors.

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY.

34th. The Recording Secretary shall engage, under the authority of the Committee of Management, a suitable House, or Rooms for an Office, at which all General and other meetings of the Society, Committee of Management, Sub-Committees, and Weekly Directors shall be held, and all business of the Society transacted.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS.

35th. At each ordinary General Meeting of the Society, or of the Committee of Management, the order of the proceedings shall be as follows:—

1st. To read the minutes taken at the last previous meeting.

2d. Matters adjourned from such meeting to be discussed.

3d. Reports of the proceedings of Sub-Committees, and statements of expenditure to be read and considered, and acted upon.

4th. New matter to be proposed.

36th. At Extraordinary General Meetings, the particular object for which the meeting is called shall be discussed, and no other.

FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY.

37th. All monies belonging to the Society, whether raised by subscription, or granted under the Provincial Act, shall be deposited in one of the Banks of this City, to be drawn out under such regulations as the Committee of Management have provided on this head.

38th. All requisitions to the Commissioners for the advance of any sums of money levied under the said Act, shall be signed by the President, and one of the Vice Presidents, or in their absence by the Chairman, pro tempore, and one of the members present, countersigned by the Recording Secretary.

39th. The Weekly Directors shall draw such monies from the Treasurer or from the Bank, as shall be necessary for their purposes, by cheques to be signed by one of them, and countersigned by the Secretary.

40th. The amount expended during the previous month shall be reported to each Monthly Meeting of the Committee, with a statement of the numbers forwarded, by the Weekly Directors who shall be on duty during the week immediately before the said Monthly Meeting of the Committee.

FUNDAMENTAL RULES FOR DISTRIBUTING RELIEF, &c.

41st. The Weekly Directors shall be guided in giving

Relief to poor Emigrants, out of the Subscription Funds of the Society, by the following general fundamental Rules heretofore acted upon by the Quebec Emigrant Society, under its former organization, viz:

STANDING RULES OF THE QUEBEC EMIGRANT SOCIETY.

1st. No person can be relieved from the funds except emigrants of the current year.

2d. No family can be relieved, (except under extraordinary circumstances,) in which there is a *man grown* who is *able to work*.

3d. No family can be relieved, where the head of the family has gone off clandestinely, and left them unprovided.

4th. No widow can be relieved who was a widow when she left Ireland, England or Scotland, unless she came out to join friends who can provide for her in this country, and is detained here by sickness or other unavoidable cause.

5th. Widows applying for relief must exhibit *satisfactory evidence* that their husbands have died either on the passage out, or since their arrival in this country.

6th. Individuals or families applying upon the alleged ground of the sickness of the man who ought to support them, must exhibit a line from the Hospital, or a medical certificate, or produce other credible testimony; and the same rule applies to unhealthy or disabled subjects applying in person, when the effects of the malady or injury are not evident to the eye.

RULES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE WEEKLY DIRECTORS.

42d. In the application of the above fundamental Rules, the Weekly Directors will exercise their discretion in making favourable exceptions in those cases which may come within the spirit of the Institution, though not within the exact letter of the Rules; and they will in such cases pursue the practice adopted by the Society under its former organization.

43d. The Weekly Directors will not order a passage, or provide means of conveyance in any case where they may

have reasonable cause to believe, that the applicant is concealing his resources, and has the means of proceeding to his destination without the assistance of the Society.

44th And they will specially comply with the enactment of the 9th Section of the aforesaid Act, which provides that no part of the monies thereby granted shall be employed in making advances of money to any Emigrant, but shall be expended in forwarding poor and destitute Emigrants to those places in this Province or in Upper Canada, at which it shall appear most probable that they may obtain employment, and establish themselves most advantageously. But in no case shall any grown person in good health, and having no family (except unmarried females who may be unable otherwise to join their friends or relations,) receive assistance out of such monies.

DISPENSARY AND PHYSICIANS.

45th. The Committee of Management shall have power to apply a part of the funds of the Society in establishing one or more Dispensaries, for the distribution of medicines, and for affording medical aid to distressed Emigrants; and shall place the same under such medical gentlemen, being members of the Society, as may be willing to give their attendance for this purpose gratuitously.

46th. The Weekly Directors shall be authorised to refer applicants for medical aid to the Physician in charge of such Dispensary.

47th. The Shed, Barrack, or place of deposit and shelter, for destitute Emigrants, should any be erected, shall be visited daily by one of the Physicians, who shall give their valuable aid to the Committee of management,

STOREKEEPERS.

48th. If it should be deemed necessary by the Committee of Management to erect or hire a shed, barrack, or other shelter for destitute Emigrants, or for depositing baggage or provisions, such place shall be under the care of a Storekeeper or Storekeepers, to be appointed as aforesaid by the said Committee; and who shall give security for the faithful and honest discharge of their duty, according to regulations to be made by the said Committee, and

subject also to the occasional direction (not being inconsistent with such regulations,) of the Weekly Directors.

49th. Such Shed, Barrack, or place of shelter and deposit shall at all times be open to the visit and inspection of any member of the General Committee of Management, not previously specified, who shall submit any complaint that may have been made to him, and any abuses which he may observe, to the Weekly Directors, or to the said Committee, as he may deem most advisable.

It was then

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of this Meeting be published in a pamphlet form, and copies sent to His Excellency the Governor in Chief, the Speakers of both Houses, the Lord Bishop of Quebec, Monseigneur Panet, the Members for the County and City of Quebec, the Collector of the Customs, the Resident Agent for Emigrants, and to the Montreal Emigrant Society.

RESOLVED, That a Subscription List be opened, and sent round to each Householder, in order to provide for the pecuniary charities of the Society; and that copies always remain at the Quebec Exchange Reading Room, at the Banks, the Custom House, and the Quebec Library.

RESOLVED, That the grateful thanks of the Society, and of this Meeting are due to the Reverend Clergy of Quebec, for their readiness in consenting to preach Sermons, in aid of the Funds of this Society.

RESOLVED, That on their retiring from office, the thanks of the Society and of this Meeting be presented to the President, Officers, and Committee of Management.

RESOLVED, That this Meeting will now proceed to the Election by Ballot, of a President for the current year.

The Hon. Mr. Justice KERR, late President, rose and stated, that having been for thirteen years connected with the Society, it was with great regret that he was forced to declare, that his other avocations would not permit him to serve another year, if elected.

The Ballot was then proceeded in, when L. H. FERRIER, Esquire, Collector of His Majesty's Customs, was chosen by a very large majority, PRESIDENT.

Resolved, That this meeting will now proceed to the Election by ballot, of three Vice Presidents for the current year.

The Ballot was then proceeded in, and the following gentlemen were chosen Vice Presidents, viz:

The Honorable John Hale,
D. Daly, Esquire,
The Honorable A. W. Cochran.

Resolved, That this Meeting will now proceed to the Election, by ballot, of a Committee of Management, consisting of twenty Members.

The ballot was then proceeded in, and the following gentlemen were chosen Members of the Committee of Management. Their seniority having afterwards been determined, they stood as follows:—

1 J. Strang,	11 W. S. Sewell,
2 C. A. Holt,	12 J. Skey, M. D.
3 R. Symes,	13 E. B. O'Callaghan, M. D.
4 W. Downes,	14 J. W. Morrell,
5 J. P. Thirlwall,	15 R. H. Gairdner,
6 H. Lemesurier,	16 W. Burke,
7 A. Simpson,	17 James Dean,
8 J. Cannon,	18 A. C. Buchanan,
9 E. Glackemeyer,	19 J. George,*
10 W. Lyons, M. D.	20 W. B. Lindsay.

N. B.—The Reverend Clergy and resident Magistrates of Quebec are *ex-officio* Members of the Committee of Management, provided they become Subscribers to the Funds, and consent to act.

Resolved, That the Committee of Management be authorised to expend a part of the Charitable Funds of the Society in procuring employment for distressed Emigrants, if they shall have it in their power.

Resolved, That the Society and this Meeting feel great regret at the retirement of the Honorable Mr. Justice Kerr from the office of President; and beg to return him grateful thanks for the interest he has always shewn for the Society, as well as for his dignified conduct in the chair.

After which the Meeting was dissolved.

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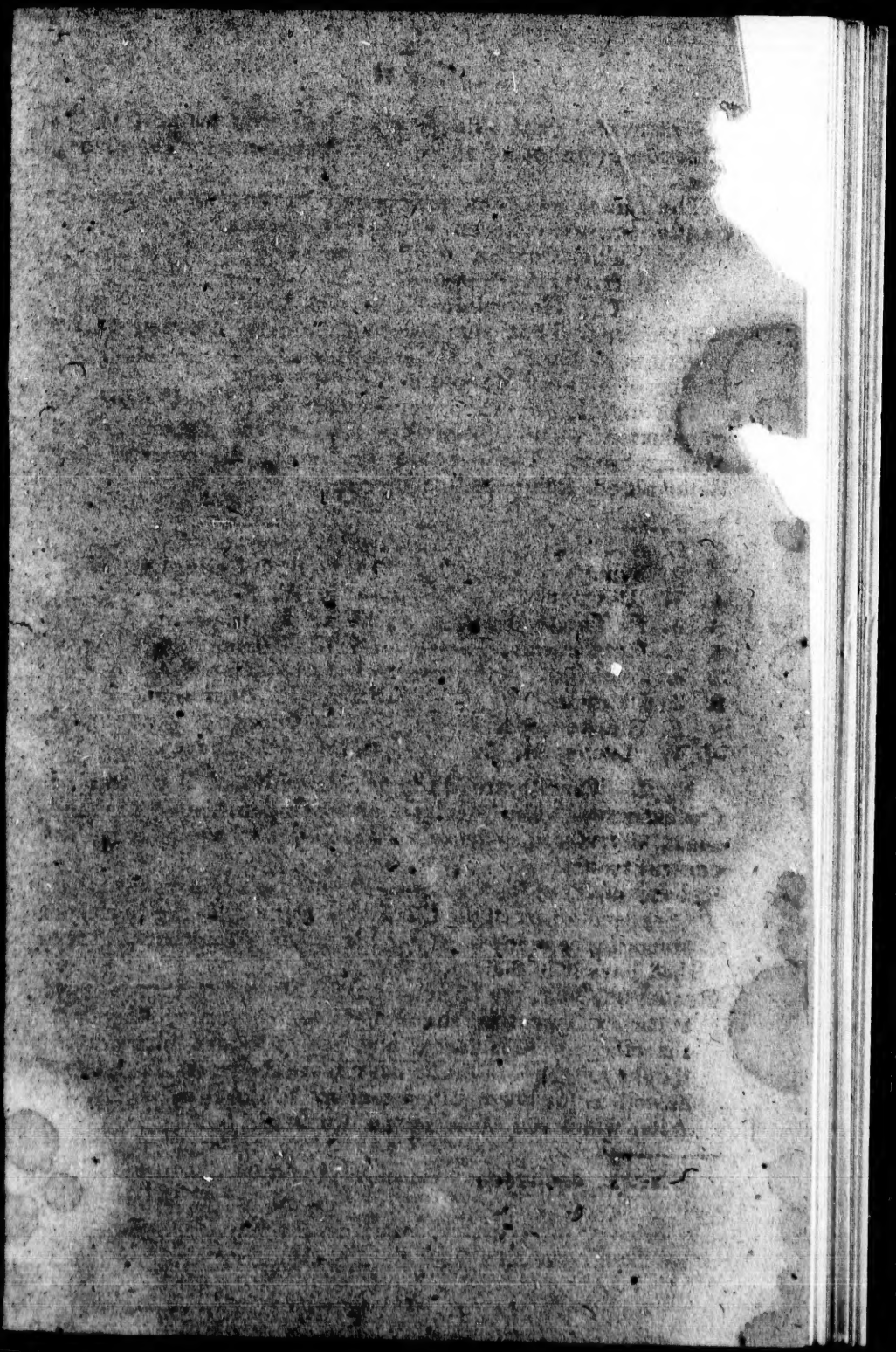
* Note, declined.